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## CAMPAIGN FINANCE DIVISION

☒ WAIVER REQUEST  
☐ RECONSIDERATION REQUEST

DATE: 6/24/2021  
DOCKET #:

### FILER INFORMATION

Name: R. C. "Chris" Nevils  
Office: District Attorney, 8th Judicial District Court  
Parish: WINN  
Election Date: 11/3/2020  
Level of Office: District

### REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: 30-P  
Original Due Date: 10/5/2020  
Date Filed: 10/15/2020  
Activity Receipts: \$2,000.00  
Expenditures: \$45.00  
Funds at Close of Reporting Period: \$2,216.31

### LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$600  
Days Late: 10  
Late Fee Order Received: 12/25/2020  
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 12/25/2020  
Waiver Request Received: 12/7/2020  
Additional Information Requested:  
XX - Medical  
- Financial  
- Other

COMMENTS: Although he was elected without opposition, nevertheless knew that I would have to file the 30—P report during the reporting period as he has done so the past. Unfortunately, a series of unfortunate events prevented from making the filing by the October 5, 2020, deadline. After qualifying, but before the 30-P could be filed, he underwent significant orthopedic surgery during the last week of August. He was essentially bed bound for nearly 3 weeks. Additionally, three days after his surgery Hurricane Laura struck. His home and office, was without power or Internet service until the latter part of September. They reopened the District Attorney's office in mid—September but remained without reliable internet service.

### OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

#### Campaign Finance:

Other Outstanding Reports: No  
Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No  
Reassessed Late Fees: No

#### Disclosure Statements:

Other Outstanding Late Fees: No  
Prior Late Fees: No

## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



R. CHRISTOPHER NEVILS  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
WINN PARISH

COURTHOUSE BUILDING  
P.O. DRAWER 1374  
WINNFIELD, LOUISIANA 71483  
318-628-2141  
318-628-2143 FAX

December 7, 2020

Louisiana Board of Ethics  
P.O. Box 4368  
Baton Rouge, LA 71483

Sent via U.S. Mail & Fax  
Fax No. (225) 381-7271

Re: *Late Fee assessment for the November 3, 2020  
Election, 30-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed  
10 days late*

Dear Board Members:

I am the duly-elected District Attorney for the Eighth Judicial District in Winn Parish, Louisiana, having been first elected in April of 2006. During my tenure as DA, I have filed no less than thirty campaign finance and financial disclosure reports without a single late filing. Although I was elected without opposition, I nevertheless knew that I would have to file the 30-P report during the reporting period as I have done so the past. Unfortunately, a series of unfortunate events prevented from making the filing by the October 5, 2020, deadline.

After qualifying, but before the 30-P could be filed, I underwent significant orthopedic surgery

during the last week of August. I was essentially bed-bound for nearly three weeks and remain under a doctor's care at this time. If necessary, I can provide the Board with medical records confirming the above.

Additionally, three days after my surgery, Hurricane Laura struck Louisiana. This hurricane was the worst natural disaster to strike Winn Parish in decades. Nearly the entire parish, and certainly my home and office, was without power or internet service until the latter part of September. Indeed, I had to relocate to Baton Rouge with my family until it was safe to return. We reopened the District Attorney's office in mid-September but remained without reliable internet service for some weeks thereafter. This made online filing of the 30-P all but impossible for all but a few days of the relevant reporting period.

Despite recovering from surgery and the aftermath of the hurricane, I went back to work at the end of September. Our office was inundated with hurricane-related problems as well as the problems associated with restarting the criminal justice system in our parish. To be sure, I did not forget to file the report but simply ran out of time. Given that a 30-P can only be filed within a certain limited period, I had precious little time to timely file the report.

Immediately upon receipt of the notice of late filing, I contacted the Board office and filed the report online while speaking with a member of your staff. I also note that the notice itself was dated over a week before I actually received it, which is not surprising as the local post office was also trying to catch up after the hurricane.

I filed the report immediately upon receiving the notification. As I was unopposed and did not actively


campaign, the information contained in it did not prejudice any person or party by its untimely filing. Indeed, I am not required to file another report until next year.

In light of the above, I respectfully ask that the Board reduce, suspend, and/or waive the substantial fine of \$600.00 that has been imposed upon me. Considering that other than a single unsolicited contribution I received this year, my campaign finance account is essentially inactive and has had less than \$500.00 in its balance for many years.

Should a personal appearance be necessary, I will be happy to make this request in person at a Board meeting.

I appreciate the Board's consideration of this request. Given the unique circumstances presented in this matter, coupled with my fourteen-year history of filing timely reports, I would not make this request if good cause did not exist for it to be granted.

Sincerely,



R. Christopher Nevils  
District Attorney



STATE OF LOUISIANA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE  
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

P. O. BOX 4368  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821  
(225) 219-5800  
FAX: (225) 381-7271  
1-800-842-6630  
www.ethics.la.gov

December 3, 2020

R. C. "Chris" Nevils  
407 W. Main St.  
Winnfield, LA 71483-2721

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

NO. 70200090000064272036

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

RE: Late fee assessment for the November 3, 2020 Election  
30-P Campaign Finance Disclosure Report filed 10 days late

Dear R. C. "Chris" Nevils:

Enclosed is an assessment of a late fee pursuant to La R.S. 18:1505.4 and La. R.S. 18:1511.4.1. Please submit a check or money order in the amount of \$600 payable to the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821. Please note that late fees can only be paid by the candidate or by his campaign.

You have 20 days from receipt of this letter to dispute this assessment. You may elect to do either or both of the following:

1. You may submit your request for a waiver to the attention of the Louisiana Board of Ethics.

Waivers are handled by the Ethics Board. The Board of Ethics may reduce, suspend, or decline to waive a late fee assessment based on the cause shown by the person, candidate, or political committee. If you submit a request for a waiver of the late fee to the Board of Ethics, your request should contain details as to why, in your opinion, you have good cause why your report was not timely filed. Also, if you would like to appear before the Board of Ethics in connection with your request, you should state that in your letter. The request should be submitted to the attention of the Board of Ethics at the following address: P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

2. You may appeal the assessment directly to the Ethics Adjudicatory Board (EAB).

Appeals to the EAB are proceedings before a three judge panel. The determination is made regarding whether the person, candidate, or political committee was required to file the report and whether the report was filed late. **Mitigating factors are not considered during an EAB proceeding. The EAB does not have the authority to reduce, suspend, or waive a late fee assessment.** If you choose to appeal the assessment to the EAB, you should submit your request for an appeal to the attention of the Executive Secretary of the Louisiana Board of Ethics at P. O. Box 4368, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or fax at (225) 381-7271.

If you timely submit a waiver request or appeal, your name will not be posted on the website pending the result of your appeal. Furthermore, if you request an appearance, you will be notified of the place and time prior to the meeting.

If you do not pay or dispute the assessment of the late fee within 20 days from the receipt of this letter, the matter will be forwarded to the Attorney General's Office to pursue collection. If the matter is forwarded to the Attorney General's Office for collection, you may be responsible for all additional costs incurred. Additionally, late fees not paid by the due date will be posted on the agency website.

*You should be aware that unpaid campaign finance fines, fees or penalties may have an adverse effect on your ability to run for public office in the future, as the Board of Ethics will object to your future qualifications for candidacy for public office pursuant to La. R.S. 18:491 and R.S. 18:492.*

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn



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OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY



R. CHRISTOPHER NEVILS  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
WINN PARISH

COURTHOUSE BUILDING  
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December 7, 2020

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Baton Rouge, LA 71483

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December 3, 2020

R. C. "Chris" Nevils  
407 W. Main St.  
Winnfield, LA 71483-2721

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**NO. 70200090000064272036**

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LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Melissa Horn



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June 24, 2021

R. C. "Chris" Nevils  
407 W. Main St.  
Winnfield, LA 71483-2721

**RE: Ethics Board Docket No.: 2021**

Dear R. C. "Chris" Nevils:

You recently requested a waiver of the late fee assessed against you for filing your campaign finance disclosure report late in connection with the November 3, 2020 election. In the request, you stated that he underwent significant orthopedic surgery. If you would like the Board to consider your medical, you must provide documentation verifying your claim. The information you provide will only be reviewed by the Ethics Board.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at the above number

Please submit the documentation to the above address by **July 30, 2021.**

Sincerely,

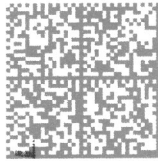
**LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS**

**Melissa Horn**

R. CHRISTOPHER NEVILS  
EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT ATTORNEY  
POST OFFICE DRAWER 1374  
WINNFIELD, LOUISIANA 71483-1374

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LA BOARD OF ETHICS  
P O BOX 4368  
BATON ROUGE LA 70821

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